

### Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Connecting device between a contact element and strands of wire, the strands of wire ~~being realized in~~ comprised of a material with a dilation coefficient different from a dilation coefficient of the contact element, the connecting device comprising an intermediate tube cooperating respectively with the contact element and the strands of wire, ~~this the intermediate~~ tube having a rigidity similar to that of the contact element, and having a dilation coefficient similar to that of the strands of wire; and a ductile and conductive material disposed between the intermediate tube and the strands of wire.
2. (previously presented) Device according to claim 1 wherein a first end of the intermediate tube is crimped around the strands of the wire, and around a shaft of this wire.
3. (previously presented) Device according to claim 2 wherein the contact element is fixed in force at a second end of the tube.
4. (previously presented) Device according to claim 3 wherein the contact element is comprised of copper.
5. (previously presented) Device according to claim 4 wherein the strands are comprised of aluminum.

6. (previously presented) Device according to claim 5 wherein the tube is comprised of aluminum.

7. (currently amended) Device according to claim ~~6~~1 wherein the intermediate tube is internally covered with ~~a~~the ductile and conductive material, ~~for example and the ductile and conductive material is comprised of one of~~ gold, silver or tin.

8. (currently amended) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:  
a tubular housing having a first opening at one end that communicates with a ~~conduit~~channel therein that has a first width or diameter for receiving one end of the stranded wire therein and having a necked down portion that has a second width or diameter that is narrower than the first width or diameter for receiving ~~a plurality of wire strands of a portion of the~~ stranded wire therein, and having a second opening at its other end that communicates with the necked down portion of the ~~conduit~~channel with the necked down portion of the ~~conduit~~channel providing a friction fit with the contact when the contact is received in the necked down portion of the ~~conduit~~channel, wherein an interior surface of the tubular housing defines the ~~conduit~~channel and is lined with a ductile and electrically conductive material, and wherein the tubular housing is made of a material having ~~a heat~~an expansion coefficient that is substantially the same as that of the material of the ~~plurality of wire strands of the~~ stranded wire.

9. (currently amended) The connector of claim 8 wherein the tubular housing is ~~erimped~~deformed against the stranded wire when the stranded wire is disposed in the conduit in the tubular housing.

10. (currently amended) The connector of claim 8 wherein the tubular housing is comprised of aluminum and the ~~plurality of wire strands of the~~ stranded wire ~~are~~is comprised of aluminum.

11. (previously presented) The connector of claim 8 wherein a force fit is provided between the contact and the tubular housing of the connector.

12. (previously presented) The connector of claim 11 wherein the contact is of one-piece and unitary construction.

13. (currently amended) The connector of claim 8 ~~12~~ wherein the contact is comprised of copper.

14. (previously presented) The connector of claim 8 wherein the ductile and electrically conductive lining is comprised of one of gold, silver or tin.

15. (currently amended) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:  
a tubular housing having an opening at one end that communicates with a ~~conduit~~  
channel therein that has a first width or diameter for receiving one end of the stranded wire  
therein and having a necked down portion that has a second width or diameter that is narrower  
than the first width or diameter for receiving ~~a plurality of wire strands of the~~ an exposed  
electrically conductive portion of the stranded wire therein, and having an opening at its other  
end that communicates with the necked down portion of the ~~conduit~~channel, wherein the necked  
down portion of the ~~conduit~~channel provides a force fit with the contact when the contact is  
received in the necked down portion of the ~~conduit~~channel,

an electrically conductive liner that is disposed on an interior surface of the tubular  
housing that defines the ~~conduit~~channel;

wherein the tubular housing is made of a material having a ~~heat~~an expansion coefficient  
that is substantially the same as the ~~heat~~ expansion coefficient of the material of the ~~plurality of~~  
~~wire strands of the~~ stranded wire; and

wherein a portion of the tubular housing is crimped against the stranded wire to retain the  
stranded wire in the ~~conduit~~channel of the tubular housing.

16. (previously presented) The connector of claim 15 wherein the electrically conductive liner is comprised of one of gold, silver or tin.

17. (previously presented) The connector of claim 15 wherein the contact is of one-piece and unitary construction and made of copper.

18. (currently amended) A connector for connecting a stranded aluminum wire to a copper contact comprising:

an aluminum tubular housing having a pair of openings leading to an interior surface that defines a generally cylindrical ~~conduit~~ channel therein that has a first section with a first diameter and a second section with a second diameter that is different than the first diameter;

a ductile and electrically conductive material lining the interior surface of the aluminum tubular housing that defines the ~~conduit~~ channel;

wherein the stranded aluminum wire is disposed in one of the ~~conduit~~ channel sections and extends through one of the ~~conduit~~ channel openings and ~~and into~~ has a plurality of ~~aluminum wire strands disposed in~~ the other one of the ~~conduit~~ channel sections;

wherein part of the aluminum tubular housing is crimped against the stranded aluminum wire; and

wherein the copper contact is disposed in the other one of the ~~conduit~~ channel sections and extends through the other one of the ~~conduit~~ channel openings; and

wherein a force fit is provided between the aluminum tubular housing and the copper contact.

19. (previously presented) The connector of claim 18 wherein the ductile and electrically conductive material is comprised of one of gold, silver or tin.

20. (currently amended) The connector of claim 18 wherein the ~~conduit~~ channel is straight.

21. (new) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:  
a straight and elongate metal tube having an interior sidewall that defines a channel therein having a first opening that communicates with a first section of the channel of a first diameter and having a second opening that communicates with a second section of the channel of a second diameter that is different than the first diameter wherein the contact extends through one of the openings into one of the first and second sections of the channel and the stranded wire extends through the other one of the openings into the other one of the first and second sections of the channel;  
an electrically conductive material that is more ductile than the tube, the electrically conductive material disposed in the channel and located between the tube and the stranded wire;  
and  
wherein the tube is made of a material having an expansion coefficient that is substantially the same as the expansion coefficient of the stranded wire.
22. (new) The connector of claim 21 wherein the channel extends uninterrupted from the first opening to the second opening.
23. (new) The connector of claim 22 wherein the channel is substantially straight.
24. (new) The connector of claim 21 wherein the electrically conductive material comprises a lining carried by the interior sidewall that defines the channel inside the tube.

25. (new) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:
- an elongate tube having an interior sidewall that defines a channel therein that extends along a substantially straight line, the channel having a pair of openings with one opening disposed at one end of the tube and the other opening disposed at the opposite end of the tube;
  - wherein the contact is received in one end of the tube and extends through one of the channel openings into the channel;
  - wherein the stranded wire is received in the other end of the tube and extends through the other one of the openings into the channel;
  - an electrically conductive material that is more ductile than the tube, the electrically conductive material disposed in the channel and located between the tube and the stranded wire;
  - and
  - wherein the tube is made of a material having an expansion coefficient that is substantially the same as the expansion coefficient of the stranded wire.

26. (new) A connector for connecting a stranded wire to a contact comprising:

an elongate tube having an interior sidewall that defines a channel therein that extends along a substantially straight line, the channel having a pair of openings with one opening disposed at one end of the tube and leading to one section of the channel having one diameter and the other opening disposed at the opposite end of the tube leading to another section of the channel having a different diameter;

wherein the contact is received in one end of the tube and extends through one of the channel openings into one section of the channel;

wherein the stranded wire is received in the other end of the tube and extends through the other one of the openings into the other section of the channel with the stranded wire having a sheathed portion disposed in the other section of the channel and an electrically conductive exposed section extending into the one section of the channel;

an electrically conductive material that is more ductile than the tube, the electrically conductive material disposed in the channel and located between the tube and the stranded wire; and

wherein the tube is made of a material having an expansion coefficient that is substantially the same as the expansion coefficient of the stranded wire.